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Security Council

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Resolution 1626 (2005)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 5263rd meeting, on 19 September 2005

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions and statements by its President concerning the situations in Liberia and Sierra Leone, in particular its resolutions 1509 (2003) of 19 September 2003, 1610 (2005) of 30 June 2005 and 1620 (2005) of 31 August 2005,

Welcoming the Secretary-General's report of 1 September 2005 (S/2005/560),

Welcoming progress made in the preparations for the October presidential and legislative elections,

Welcoming the further extension of State authority, including progress in the establishment of a new Liberian police service and the appointment of new judges and magistrates,

Expressing appreciation for the indispensable and continuing contributions to the Liberian peace process by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU), and for financial and other assistance provided by the international community,

Welcoming the signing by the National Transitional Government of Liberia (NGTL) and the International Contact Group of Liberia of the Governance and Economic Management Assistance Program (GEMAP) which is designed to ensure prompt implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and to expedite the lifting of measures imposed by resolution 1521 (2003),

Reiterating its appreciation for the essential work of the Special Court for Sierra Leone and its vital contributions to the establishment of the rule of law in Sierra Leone and the subregion and encouraging all States to cooperate fully with the Court as it implements its completion strategy,

Noting that the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) is scheduled to end its operations on 31 December 2005,

Recalling the briefing to the Security Council by the President of the Special Court for Sierra Leone on 24 May 2005 in which he stressed the need for a continuing international security presence to provide protection for the Special

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Court after the departure of UNAMSIL, and *welcoming* the Secretary-General's recommendations in this regard,

Determining that the situation in Liberia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* that the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) shall be extended until 31 March 2006;

2. *Calls on* all Liberian parties to demonstrate their full commitment to a democratic process of government by ensuring that the upcoming presidential and legislative elections are peaceful, transparent, free and fair;

3. *Calls on* the international community to respond to continuing needs for resources for the rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-combatants and for security sector reform;

4. *Looks forward* to the implementation of GEMAP by the NTGL and succeeding governments of Liberia in collaboration with their international partners, and *requests* the Secretary-General to include information on the progress of this implementation in his regular reports on UNMIL;

5. *Authorizes* UNMIL, subject to the consent of the troop-contributing countries concerned and the Government of Sierra Leone, to deploy from November 2005 up to 250 United Nations military personnel to Sierra Leone to provide security for the Special Court for Sierra Leone, as recommended in paragraphs 90 to 94 of the Secretary-General's report of 1 September 2005 (S/2005/560);

6. *Authorizes* a temporary increase in UNMIL's personnel ceiling, to a total of 15,250 United Nations military personnel, for the period from 15 November 2005 to 31 March 2006 in order to ensure that the support provided to the Court does not reduce UNMIL's capabilities in Liberia during its political transition period;

7. *Further authorizes* UNMIL, subject to the consent of troop-contributing countries concerned and of the Government of Sierra Leone, to deploy an adequate number of military personnel to Sierra Leone, if and when needed, to evacuate UNMIL military personnel deployed to Sierra Leone pursuant to paragraph 5 of this resolution and officials of the Special Court for Sierra Leone in the event of a serious security crisis affecting those personnel and the Court;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL), once established, to assist in providing logistic support for UNMIL military personnel deployed to Sierra Leone pursuant to this resolution;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Government of Sierra Leone to conclude an agreement regarding the status of military personnel of UNMIL deployed to Sierra Leone pursuant to this resolution, taking into account General Assembly resolution 59/47 on the scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety and Security of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and decides that, pending the conclusion of such an agreement, the model status-of-forces agreement dated 9 October 1990 (A/45/594) shall apply provisionally;

10. *Supports* the Secretary-General's recommendation to return to the ceiling of United Nations military personnel authorized in resolution 1509 (2003) by 31 March 2006;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations missions in the region, within their capabilities and areas of deployment and without prejudice to their mandates, to continue their efforts towards enhancing intermission cooperation, especially with regard to the prevention of cross-border movement of arms, combatants and the illicit exploitation of natural resources and in the implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by UNMIL to implement the Secretary-General's zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure full compliance of its personnel with the United Nations code of conduct, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action in this regard and to keep the Security Council informed, and urges troop-contributing countries to take appropriate preventive action, including the conduct of predeployment awareness training, and to take disciplinary action and other action to ensure that allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse against their personnel are properly investigated and, if substantiated, punished;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide recommendations on a drawdown plan for UNMIL, including specific benchmarks and a tentative schedule, in his March 2006 report;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to keep the Council regularly informed on UNMIL's progress with the implementation of its mandate;

15. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.